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TIB-D-13.1/50

THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

SP - 106/76

MEMORANDUM FOR THE NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Experiment in Competitive Analysis, NIE 11-3/8-76

- REFERENCES: (1) USIB-D-13.1/49 dated 25 Nov 75, "DCI Comments on NSC Staff and PFIAB Proposals Regarding Possible Revisions in the NIE Process"
- (2) [ ] dated 12 Nov 75, "NSC Staff and PFIAB Proposals Regarding Possible Revisions in the NIE Process"

1. Forwarded for your information is a letter to the DCI dated 8 June 1976 from the Chairman of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board. As explained in the letter, the Board has recommended that an experiment in competitive analysis be undertaken in connection with the production of this year's estimate on Soviet Forces for Intercontinental Conflict: NIE 11-3/8-76. The Director of Central Intelligence has agreed to conduct the experiment according to guidelines proposed in the attached letter.

2. The DCI has designated [ ] formerly Deputy Director of the Office of Strategic Research, CIA, to arrange and supervise the conduct of the experiment under the aegis of the National Intelligence Officer for Strategic Programs. [ ] will provide a central focus and support point for the individual teams preparing the competitive analyses. He will be substantively informed on the issues to be addressed but will assume a substantively neutral role regarding the analyses.

3. The experiment should not interfere with the work of the intelligence community in preparation of NIE 11-3/8-76. Both NFIB representatives and principals will be involved, however, in reviewing the results of the experiment prior to issuances of the NIE.

[ ]

Richard Lehman  
Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence

21 June 1976  
Attachment  
As Stated

HS/HC-888

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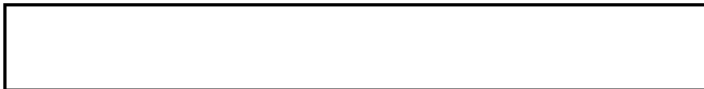
THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

10 SEP 1976

Mr. Sherman Kent



Dear Mr. Kent:

As you know, the Director of Central Intelligence has agreed to conduct an experimental project in competitive analysis. The project, undertaken at the suggestion of the President's Foreign Intelligence Advisory Board, is concerned with NIE 11-3/8-76.

One group of scholars from outside the intelligence community is addressing the question of Soviet Strategic Policies and Objectives. Dr. Richard E. Pipes of Harvard University is directing the efforts of this group. Dr. Pipes and the other members of the project are inviting a number of experts in various fields to brief them on selected topics and hope that you will be available to brief on the NIE process.

Briefings are being scheduled for 15, 16, 17 September at 10 A.M., 1 P.M. and 3 P.M. If you are available to brief this group, will you please indicate your preferences for time and date. First, second, and third choices would be appreciated.

Briefings may be conducted at the all source level. Dr. Pipes has requested that briefings be limited to not more than 30 minutes with one hour for discussion and questions.

10 am

Sp Be 10<sup>th</sup> floor Rm 1026  
AMES—

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If you require more information you may contact me at  You may also call me at this number to indicate your preferences for the date and time of your briefing.

Sincerely,



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Attachments:

1. Memo for the NFIB dated 23 June 1976  
from the Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence
2. Letter from the Chairman, PFIAB to the DCI, dated  
8 June 1976

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AREA OR COUNTRY(S)		Approved For Release 2004/12/22 : CIA-RDP84-00499R000500010001-0		DOCUMENT
Hqs.	USSR	PFIAB, NFIB	Analysis	Sherman Kent
		NSC, NIO	Estimating	Richard Pipes
			Projects	

DATE:  
8 June 76  
23 June 76  
10 Sep 76

CLASS.:

NO.:

IDENTIFICATION OF DOCUMENT (author, form, addresses, title & length) Letter from Chairman, PFIAB to the DCI, 8 June 76 outlining a plan for improving quality of NIE's; (1 pg) also 21 June 76 memo to NFIB re "Experiment in Competitive Analysis, NIE 11-3/8-76" (4 pgs), from the Dep to Dir. for National Intell. An invitation to Sherman Kent from [redacted] (2 pgs) to brief a group on the NIE process.

LOCATION:

HS/HC- 88925X1

**ABSTRACT** An experiment in competitive analysis using as a sample the production of NIE 11-3/8-76 'Estimate on Soviet Forces for Intercontinental Conflict'. Purpose of this is to generate from fragmentary evidence available, possible alternative descriptions, explanations and judgments of Soviet activities, capabilities and objectives. This experiment is being undertaken to find new ways of improving the estimating process for the national leadership.

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